

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method for providing a service by a plurality of domains through a single IP address, the method comprising:

a) For each of the plurality of domains, allocating a server having a unique domain name and the IP address, for providing the service, wherein the allocated server is an original, unmodified server;

b) Providing a wrapper, the wrapper being a software module for intermediating between a client of the service and [[a]] the server providing the service via a standard communication protocol for communicating with the server providing the service;

c) Upon receiving a request for connecting a client to the server in order to provide the service:

(i) Identifying the target domain name of the request by interacting between the client and the wrapper via the standard communication protocol, wherein the target domain name and the user name are embedded in a single command, separated by a symbol that is permitted by the standard communication protocol, wherein the symbol is at least one character that does not conform with the standard characters allowed in a username in the standard communication protocol,

wherein the username phrase is one of “user%domain” and “domain%user”, in which “user” is the username, “domain” is the domain name, and “%” is any symbol that does not conform to the standard communication protocol;

(ii) Mediating the interaction between the wrapper and the server providing the service which is associated with using the target domain name by the standard communication protocol;

(iii) Establishing a communication channel between the server and the client through the wrapper, such that the wrapper receives commands from the client using a modified protocol, and the server ~~utilizing~~ utilizes the standard communication protocol to receive the client requests;

(iv) keeping the wrapper active only until the requested server is identified, and the communication is handed to the requested server, and then terminating the wrapper;

(v) Starting a data connection between the client and the original, unmodified server to receive and respond to the client requests directly using the standard communication protocol; and

(~~v~~) (vi) Allowing the original, unmodified server to provide the service to the client.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the services are any of POP3, SMTP, MIRC, Telnet, SSH, Rtelnet, and Shell.

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of the domains refers to a different Virtual Dedicated Server.

6. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the IP address is associated with a computer system running any dialect of Unix, Solaris, Linux (including Red Hat, Debian, SuSE, FreeBSD), AIX, HP/UX, Tru64, or Irix.

7. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein each domain has its own instance of the server, the instance being a virtual server.

8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein multiple servers providing services to multiple clients for at least some domains share the same disk space.

9. (previously presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein only one instance of a server resides at a Host, and is referenced by hard links from the domains.

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising providing a replacement shared library including additional functionality compared to an original shared library to which the standard communication protocol refers.

13. (previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the additional functionality of the replacement shared library is added to the original shared library by hooking.

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising providing a buffer to each socket, for retaining temporarily the information received from the client, and reading the data from the buffer if it is not empty, or from the socket if the buffer is empty.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 14, further comprising ignoring any write command until the buffer is empty.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a single encryption key is used for all domains on each Host.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the wrapper is provided with information related to secured services of the target domain in plain text.

18. (currently amended) A system for providing a service to a client by a plurality of domains, through a single IP address, the system comprising:

a plurality of servers, each server providing the service for a corresponding domain; and
a wrapper, for intermediating between the client and the plurality of servers, using a standard communication protocol,

wherein, for each request to connect the client to the server, the wrapper identifies a target domain name by interacting with the client via the standard communication protocol, interacts with the server associated with the target domain name via the standard communication protocol, and enables the server to provide the service to the client, wherein the server providing the service is a copy of an original, unmodified server out of the plurality of servers,

wherein the target domain name and the user name are embedded in a single command, separated by a symbol that is permitted by the standard communication protocol, wherein the symbol is at least one character that does not conform with the standard characters allowed in a username in the standard communication protocol,

a communication channel established through the wrapper between the server and the client, such that the wrapper receives commands from the client using a modified protocol, and

the original, unmodified server utilizes the standard communication protocol to receive the client requests;

a data connection between the client and the original, unmodified server for receiving and responding to the client requests directly using the standard communication protocol,

wherein the username phrase is one of “user%domain” and “domain%user”, in which “user” is the username, “domain” is the domain name, and “%” is any symbol that does not conform to the standard communication protocol.

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (previously presented) The system according to claim 18, further comprising a replacement shared library including additional functionality compared to an original shared library to which the standard communication protocol refers.

22. (previously presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein the additional functionality of the replacement shared library is added to the original shared library by hooking.

23. (previously presented) The system according to claim 22, wherein the additional functionality includes retaining temporarily the information received from the client via a socket into a buffer, and reading the data from the buffer if the buffer is not empty, or from the socket if the buffer is empty.

24. (previously presented) The system according to claim 23, further comprising ignoring any write command until the buffer is empty.

25. (previously presented) The system according to claim 18, wherein one encryption key is used for all domains on each server.

26. (previously presented) The system according to claim 25, wherein the wrapper is provided with information related to secured services of the target domain in plain text.

27. (previously presented) The system according to claim 18, wherein each domain has its own instance of the server, the instance being a virtual server.

28. (previously presented) The system according to claim 27, wherein servers corresponding to some of the domains share the same disk space.

29. (previously presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein only one instance of some of the servers resides at a Host, and is referenced by hard links from the domains.

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the wrapper provides a buffer to each socket for retaining temporarily information received from a client.

31. (previously presented) The system according to claim 30, wherein the wrapper provides servers hosting the domain with additional functionality by hooking a replacement shared library to an original shared library of the standard communication protocol.

32. (previously presented) The system according to claim 31, wherein, during the connection, “read” commands read the data from the buffer if it is not empty, or the data from the socket, if the buffer is empty.

33. (previously presented) The system according to claim 30, wherein the connection further comprises ignoring any write command until the buffer is empty.

34. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the services are any of HTTP and FTP.